



Synopsis

March 2022 was colder than normal statewide. Precipitation was below normal in the west and east, but near to above normal in central areas. Storm events occurred on the 10th, 16th, 23rd and 30th bringing mountain snow and lowland rain, along with occasional strong to high winds and rapidly colder temperatures.



Rio Rancho, NM | March 23, 2022 - Photo courtesy of Edward Sadzewicz



Albuquerque, NM Blowing Dust March 30, 2022 - Photo courtesy of NWS ABQ



Albuquerque, NM Blowing Dust March 10, 2022 - Photo courtesy of NWS ABQ



Taos Ski Valley Avalanche March 10th - Photo courtesy of Andy Bond

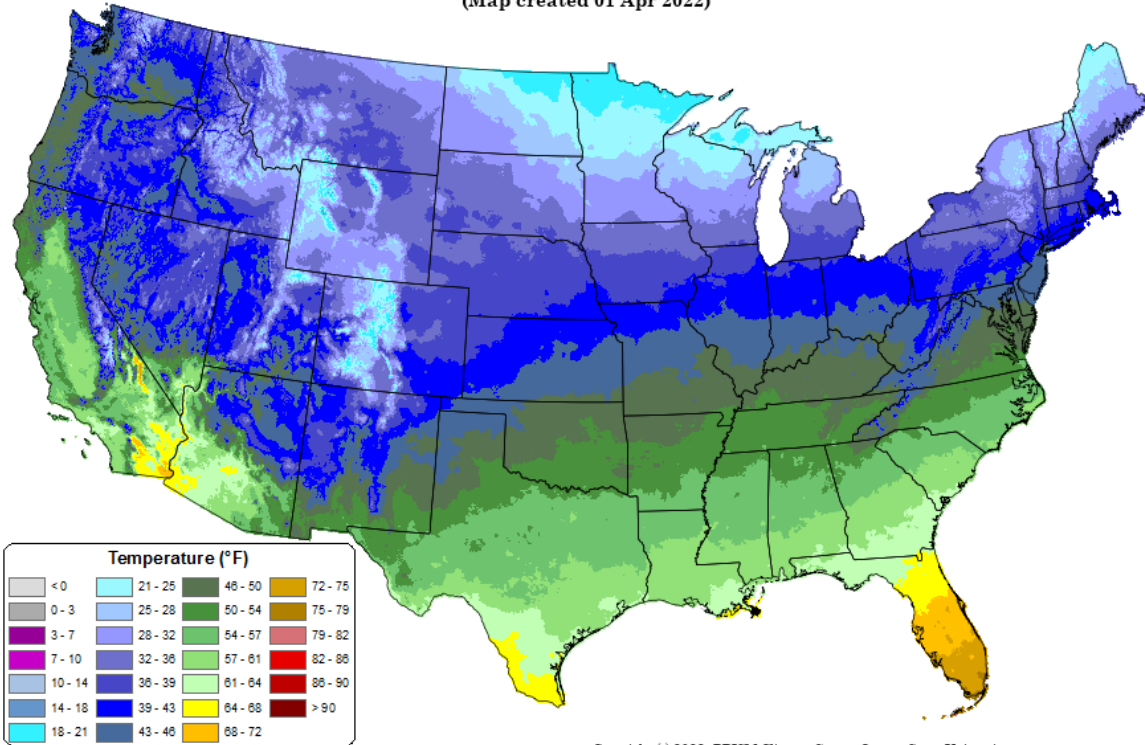


Taos Ski Valley Avalanche March 10th - Photo courtesy of Andy Bond

Actual

Average Daily Mean Temperature: 01 Mar 2022 - 31 Mar 2022

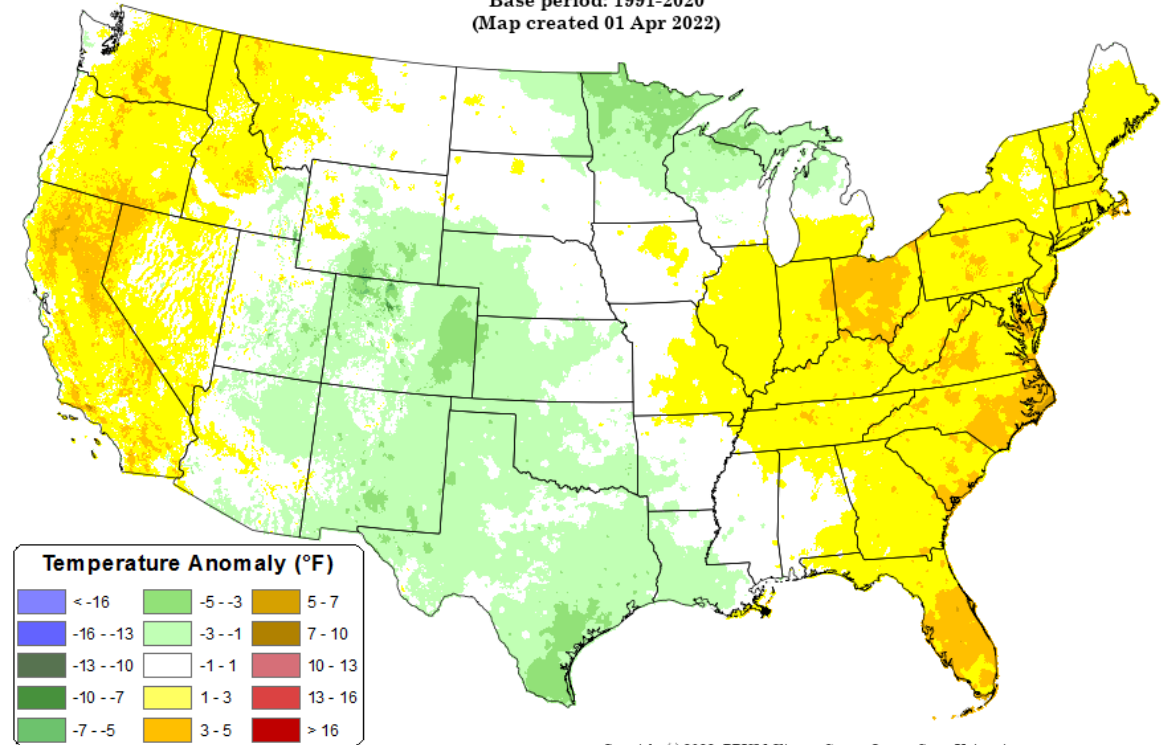
Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2022
(Map created 01 Apr 2022)



Anomaly

Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly: 01 Mar 2022 - 31 Mar 2022

Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2022
Base period: 1991-2020
(Map created 01 Apr 2022)



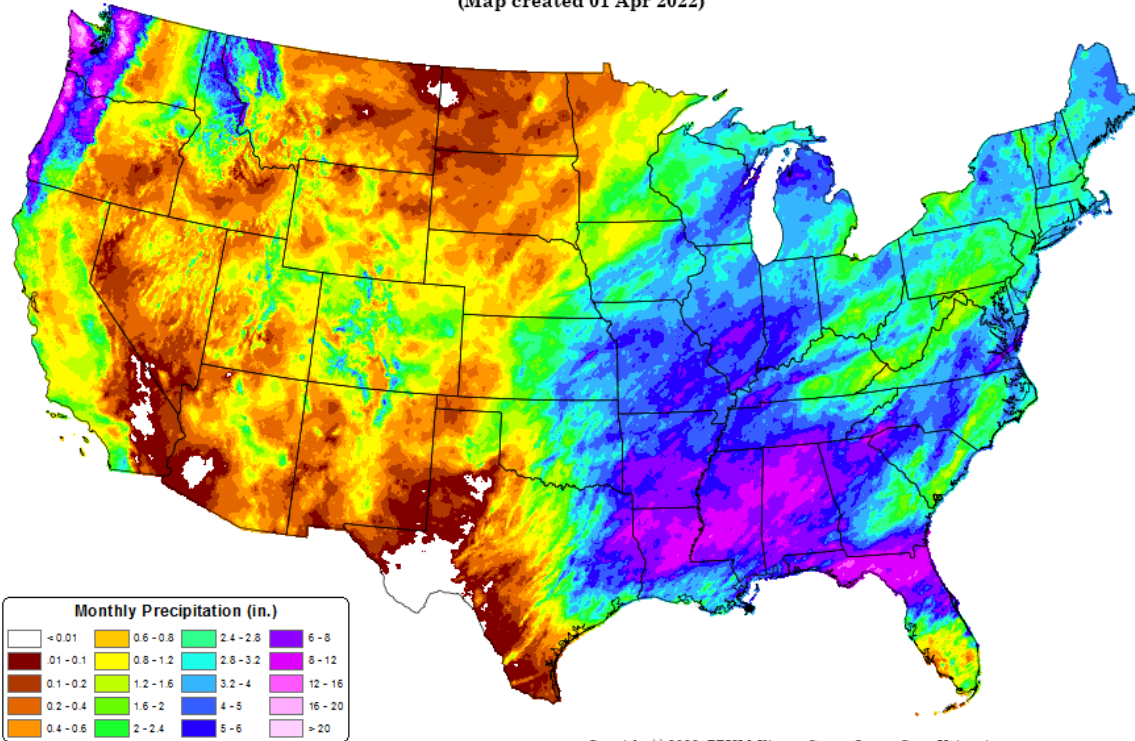
March temperatures were below normal across most of NM.



Actual

Total Precipitation: 01 Mar 2022 - 31 Mar 2022

Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2022
(Map created 01 Apr 2022)

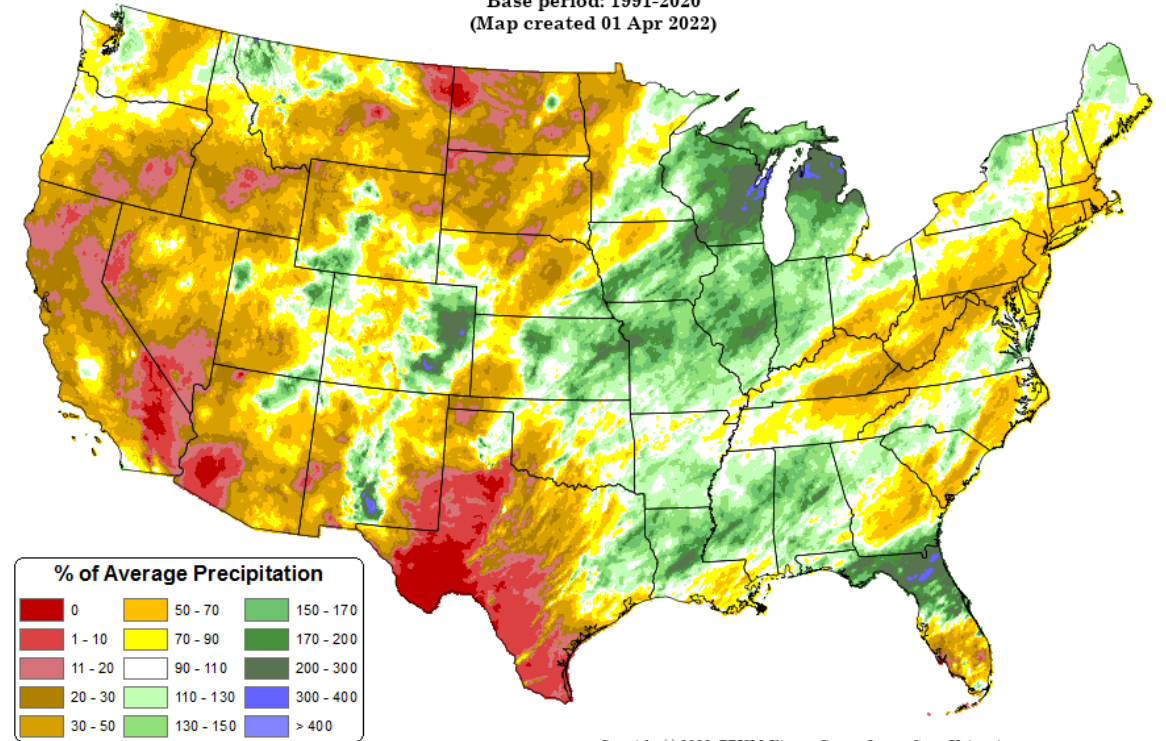


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Anomaly

Total Precipitation Anomaly: 01 Mar 2022 - 31 Mar 2022

Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2022
Base period: 1991-2020
(Map created 01 Apr 2022)



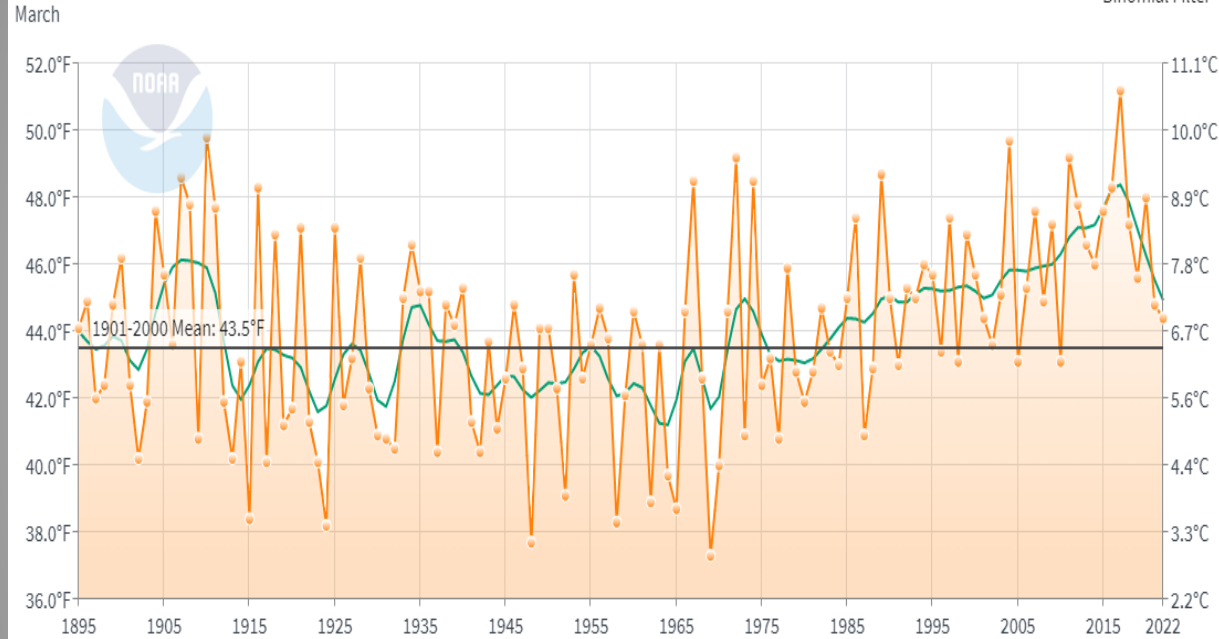
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March precipitation was mostly below normal across the west and east, but near to well above normal in central New Mexico.



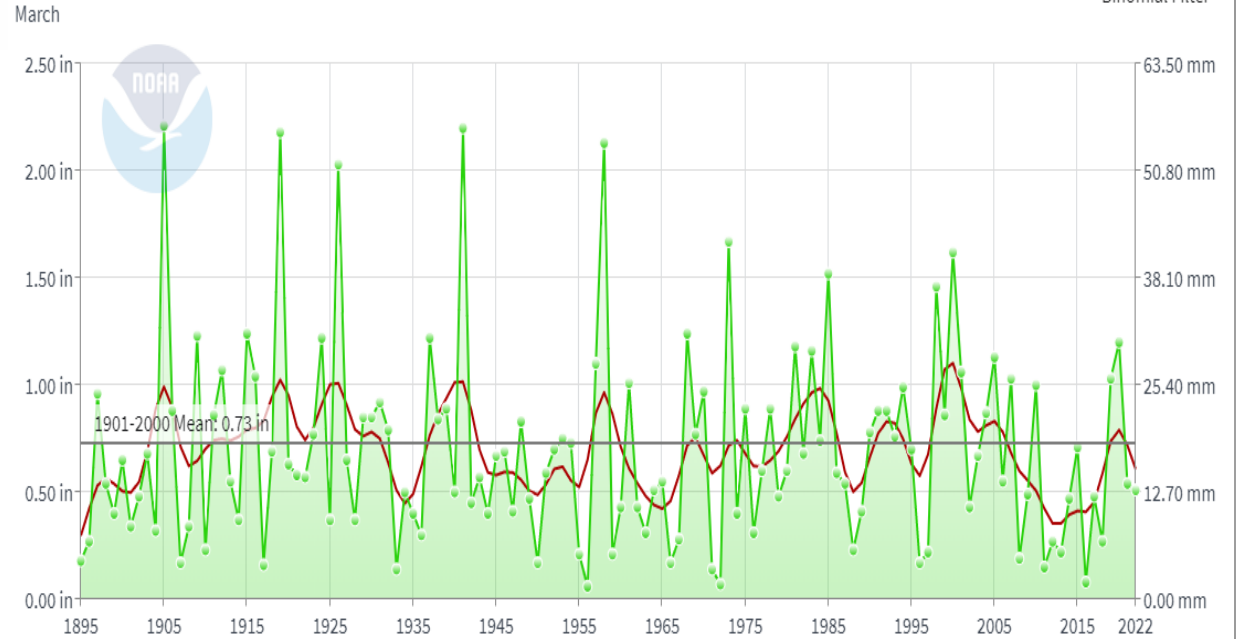
Temperature

New Mexico Average Temperature



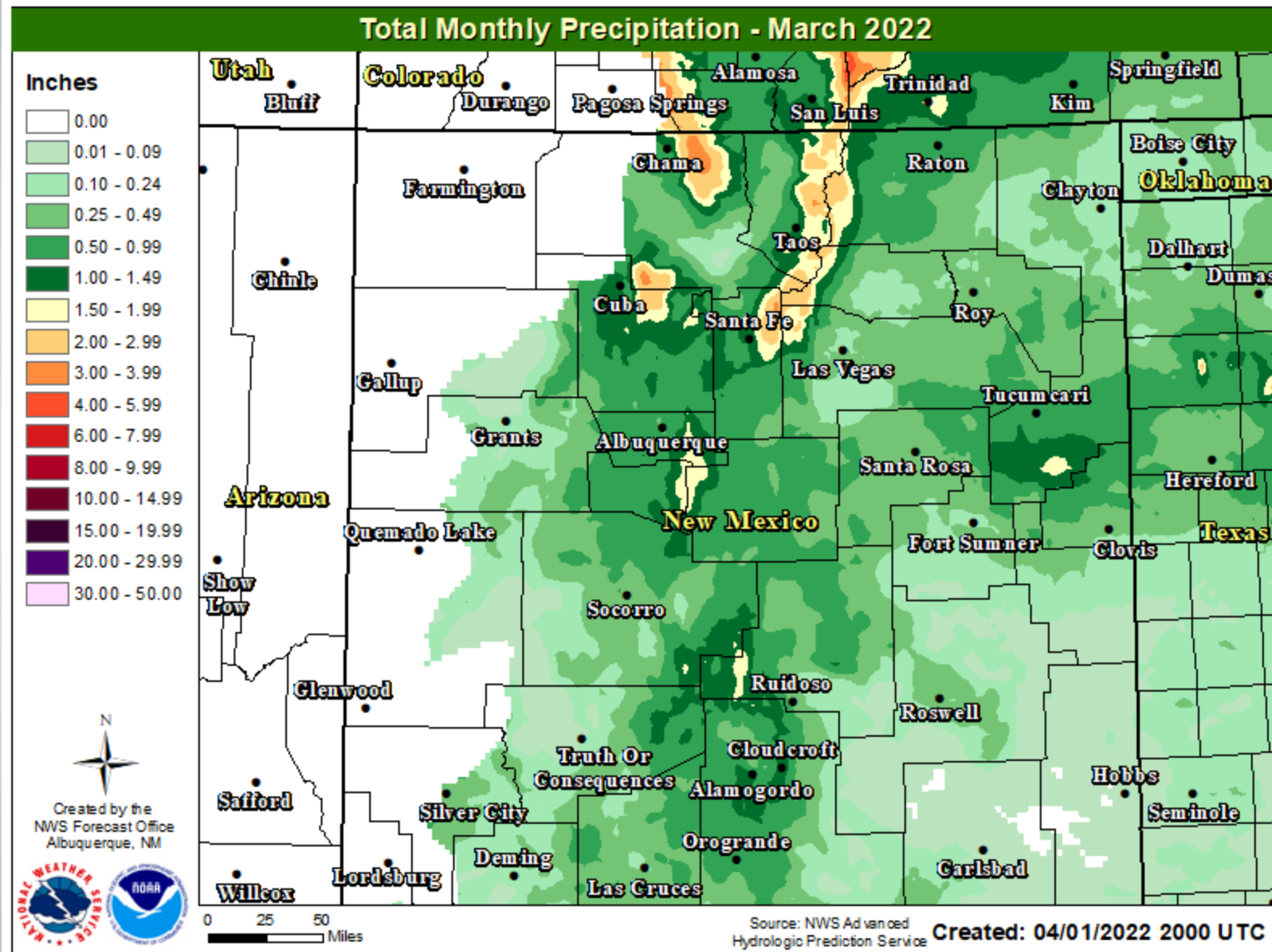
Precipitation

New Mexico Precipitation



The March 2022 average statewide temperature was 44.4°, which was 0.9° above the long-term normal of 43.5° (1901-2000). This tied as the 60th warmest March on record (1895-2022).

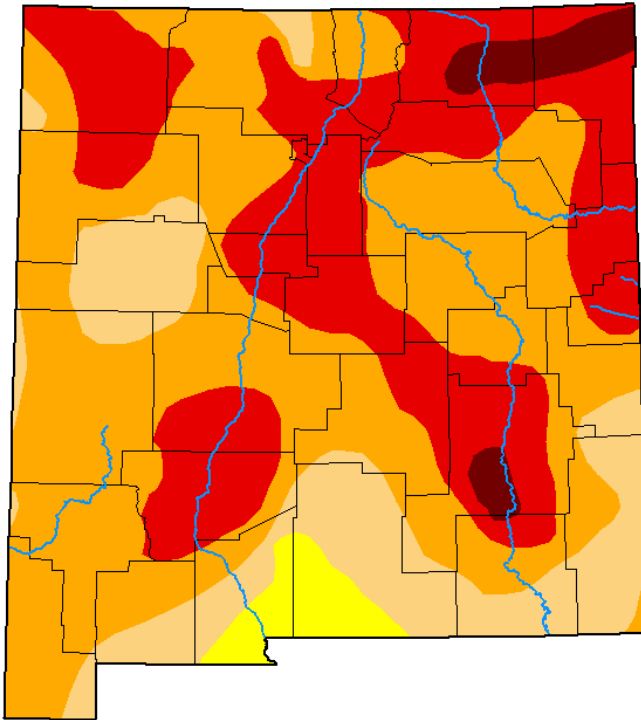
The March 2022 average statewide precipitation was 0.51", which was 0.22" below the long-term normal of 0.73" (1901-2000). This ranked as the 51st driest March on record (1895-2022).



Here is a more detailed image of the March 2022 precipitation.



U.S. Drought Monitor New Mexico



March 1, 2022
(Released Thursday, Mar. 3, 2022)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	97.09	80.96	33.09	2.77
Last Week 02-22-2022	0.00	100.00	97.09	79.86	32.46	2.53
3 Months Ago 11-30-2021	0.15	99.85	94.19	69.50	19.01	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-04-2022	0.00	100.00	97.83	75.86	20.91	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-28-2021	10.70	89.30	79.47	49.33	19.12	0.00
One Year Ago 03-02-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	99.91	82.18	54.15

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

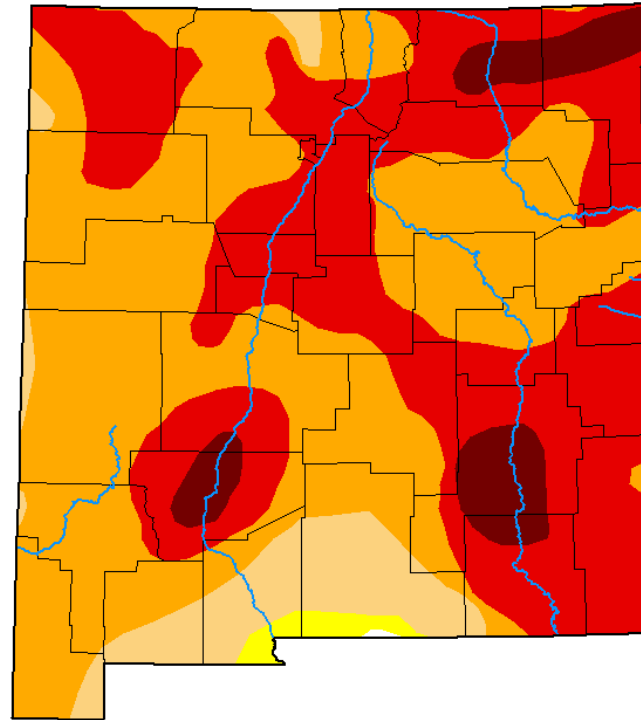
Author:

Brad Rippey
U.S. Department of Agriculture



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

U.S. Drought Monitor New Mexico



March 29, 2022
(Released Thursday, Mar. 31, 2022)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.06	99.94	98.89	91.19	43.84	5.53
Last Week 03-22-2022	0.06	99.94	98.91	91.19	39.64	5.53
3 Months Ago 12-28-2021	0.00	100.00	97.79	75.72	20.91	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-04-2022	0.00	100.00	97.83	75.86	20.91	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-28-2021	10.70	89.30	79.47	49.33	19.12	0.00
One Year Ago 03-30-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	99.35	79.88	53.28

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

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National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Drought conditions in March unfortunately worsened, mainly across the west and south. Other than a sliver of no drought/abnormally dry in far south central New Mexico at the Texas border, the state remained in some form of drought status. Over 90% of the state is in severe to exceptional drought.

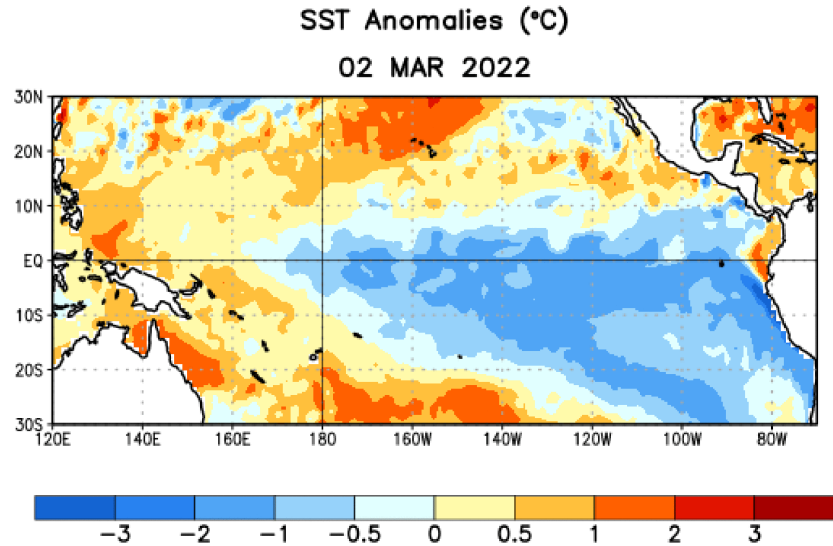


Figure 1. Average sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies (°C) for the week centered on 2 March 2022. Anomalies are computed with respect to the 1991-2020 base period weekly means.

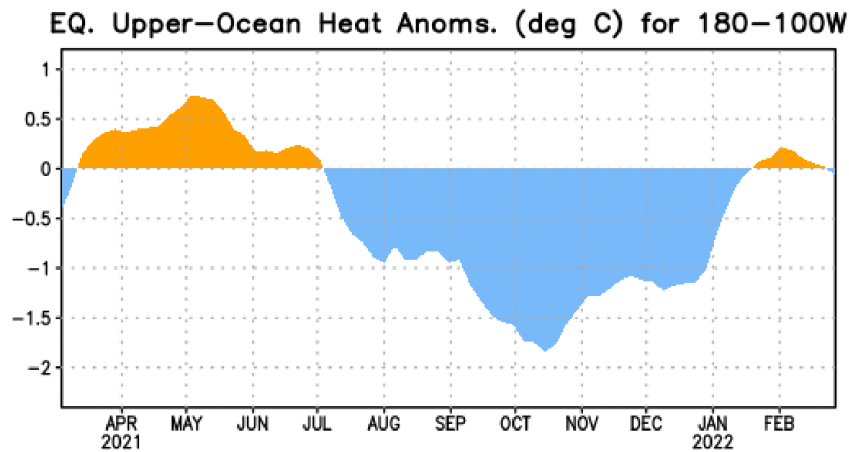


Figure 3. Area-averaged upper-ocean heat content anomaly (°C) in the equatorial Pacific (5°N-5°S, 180°-100°W). The heat content anomaly is computed as the departure from the 1991-2020 base period pentad means.

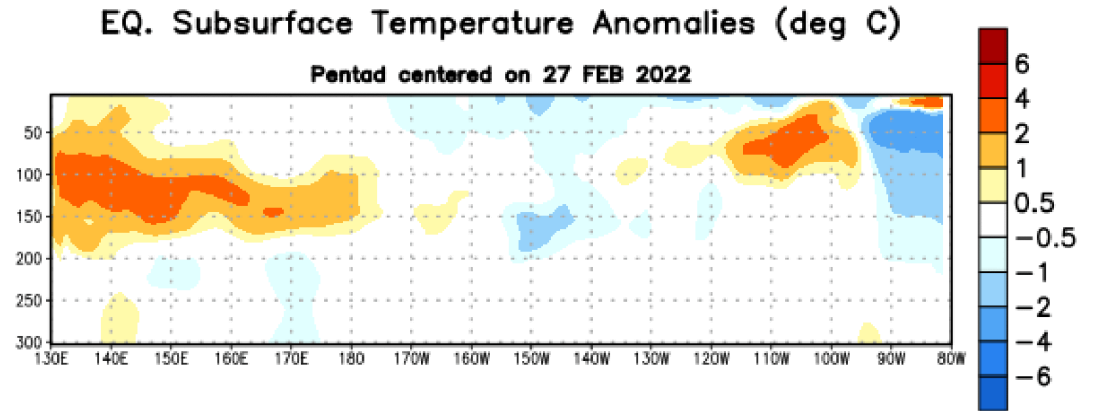


Figure 4. Depth-longitude section of equatorial Pacific upper-ocean (0-300m) temperature anomalies (°C) centered on the pentad of 27 February 2022. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period pentad means.

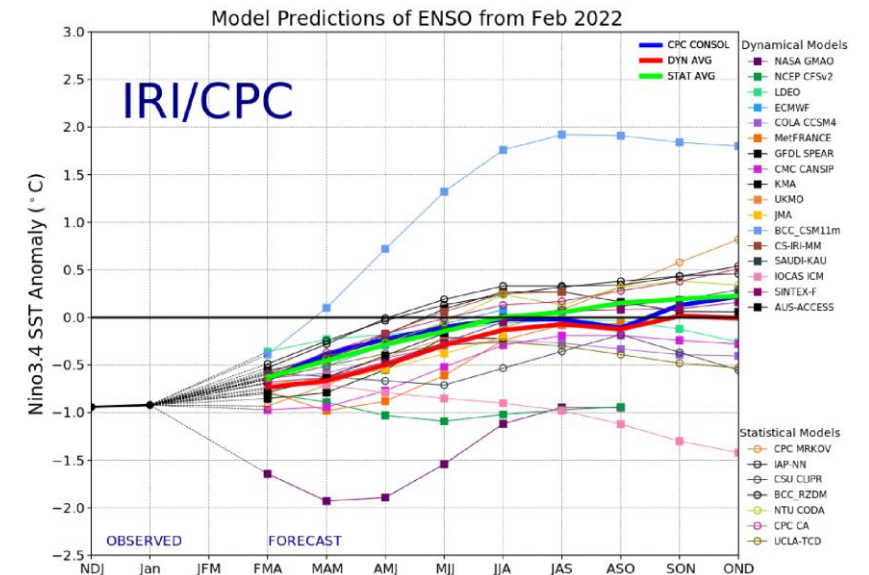
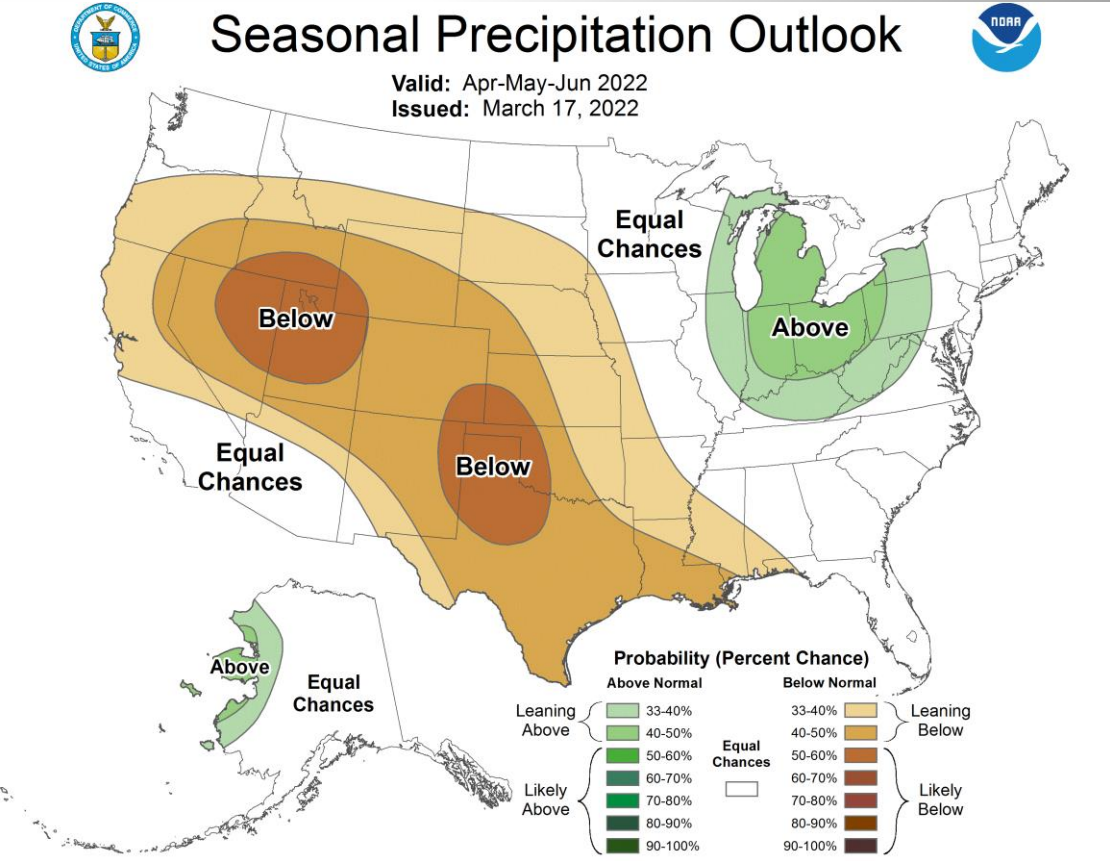
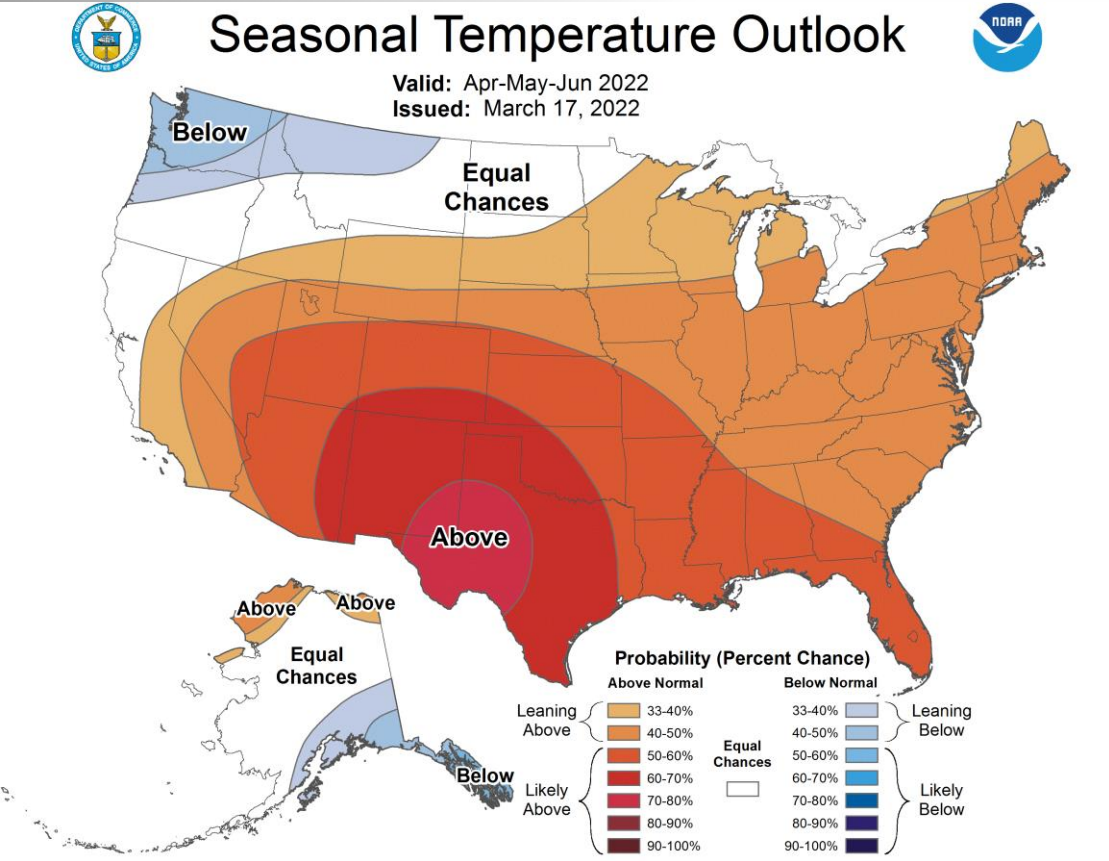


Figure 6. Forecasts of sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies for the Niño 3.4 region (5°N-5°S, 120°W-170°W). Figure updated 18 February 2022.

Temperature
April-May-June

Precipitation
April-May-June



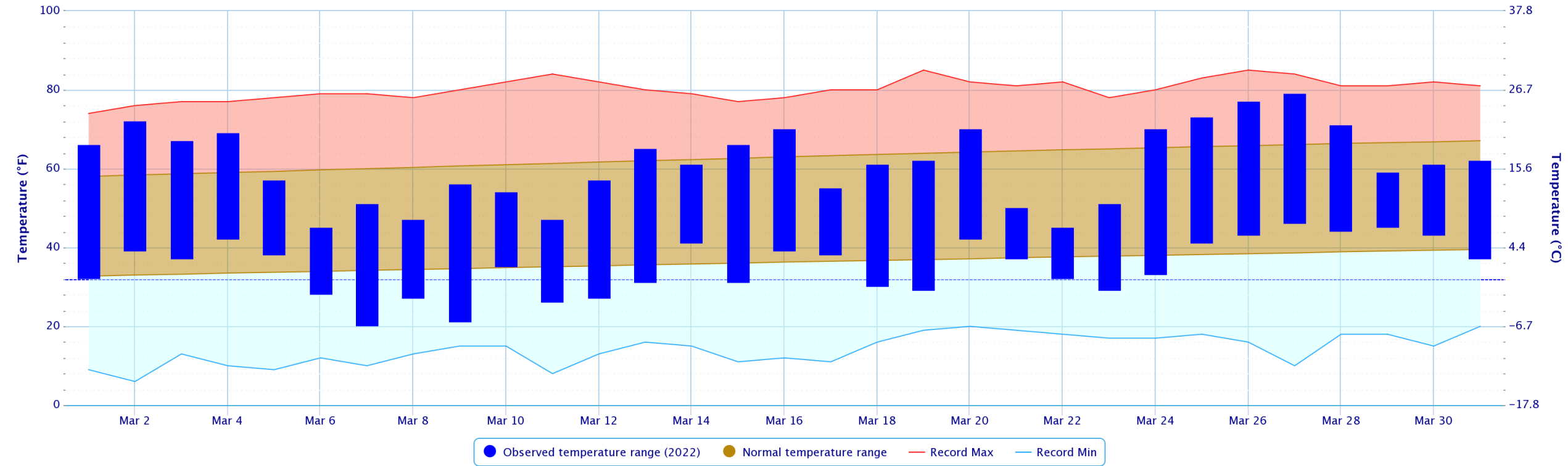
Well above normal temperatures, and below normal precipitation continue to be the most likely weather scheme for the late spring and early summer seasons. The bootheel shows no tendency toward above, near or below normal precipitation.



Average Temperature: 48.0°

Daily Temperature Data – Albuquerque Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – 1891-12-01 to 2022-03-31. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



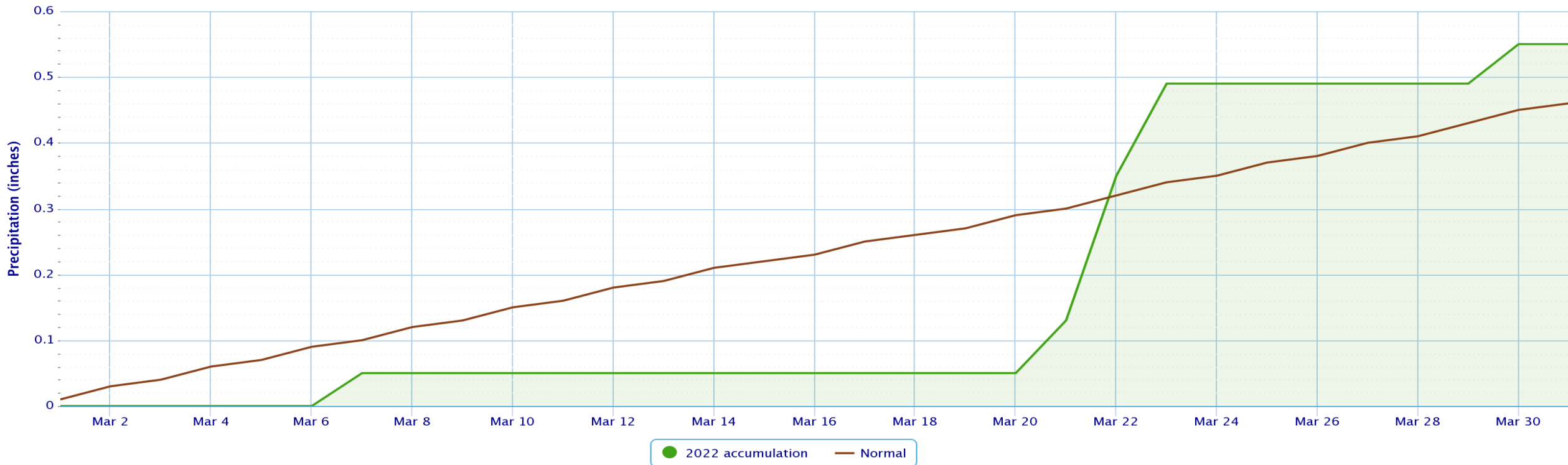
The March 2022 average temperature for Albuquerque was 48.0°, which was 1.5° below the normal of 49.5°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 61.2°. This was 1.6° below the normal average maximum temperature of 62.8°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 34.9°. This was 1.3° below the normal average minimum temperature of 36.2°. This ranked as the 79th coldest March on record.



Precipitation: 0.55"

Accumulated Precipitation – Albuquerque Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



Powered by ACIS

The March 2022 precipitation for Albuquerque was 0.55", which was 0.09" above the normal of 0.46". This ranked as the 42nd wettest March on record.

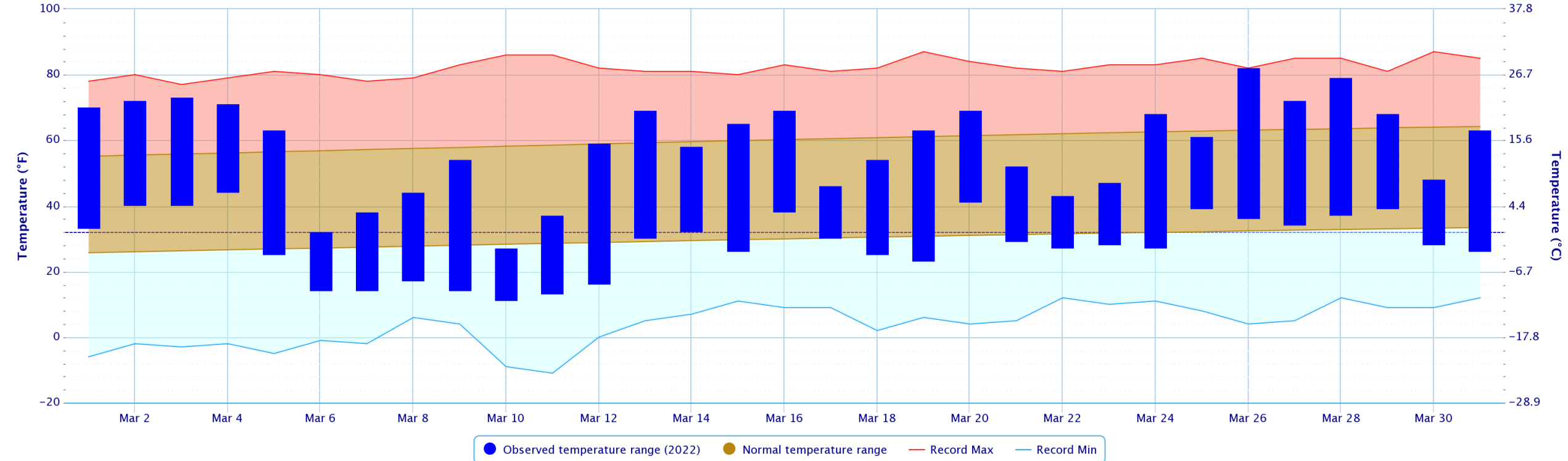
There was 3.7" of snow, compared to the normal of 0.7". This was good enough to be the 11th snowiest March on record.



Average Temperature: 43.4°

Daily Temperature Data – Clayton Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – 1896-02-01 to 2022-03-31. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



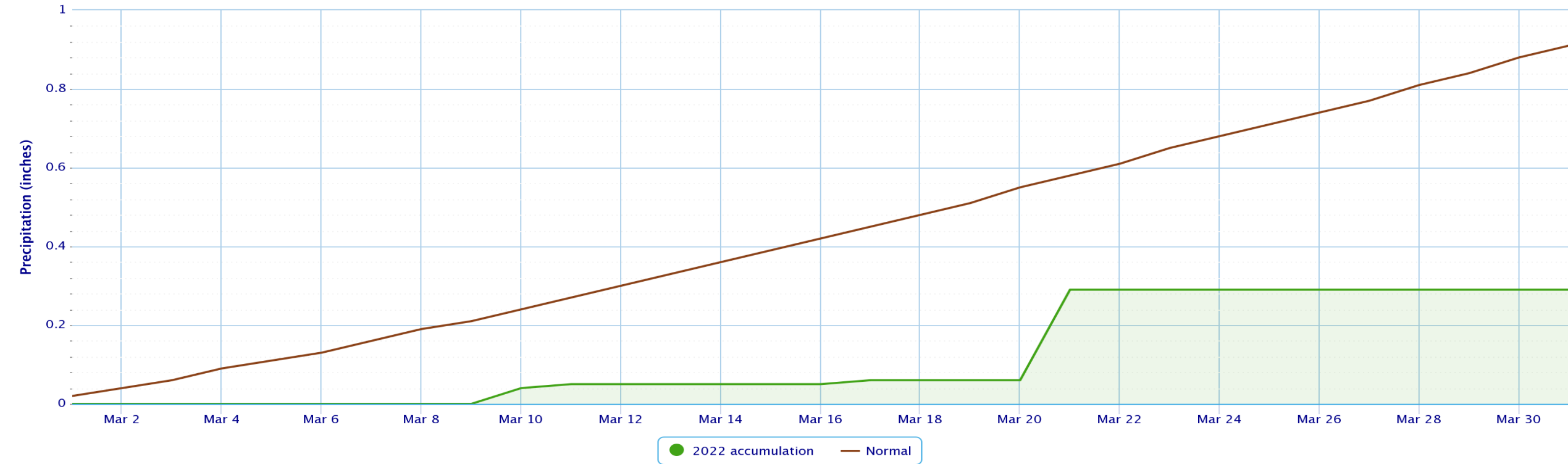
The March 2022 average temperature for Clayton was 43.4°, which was 1.5° below the normal of 44.9°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 58.6°. This was 1.4° below the normal average maximum temperature of 60.0°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 28.3°. This was 1.5° below the normal average minimum temperature of 29.8°. This ranked as the 61st coldest March on record.



Precipitation: 0.29"

Accumulated Precipitation – Clayton Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



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The March 2022 precipitation for Clayton was 0.29", which was 0.62" below the normal of 0.91". This ranked as the 46th driest March on record.

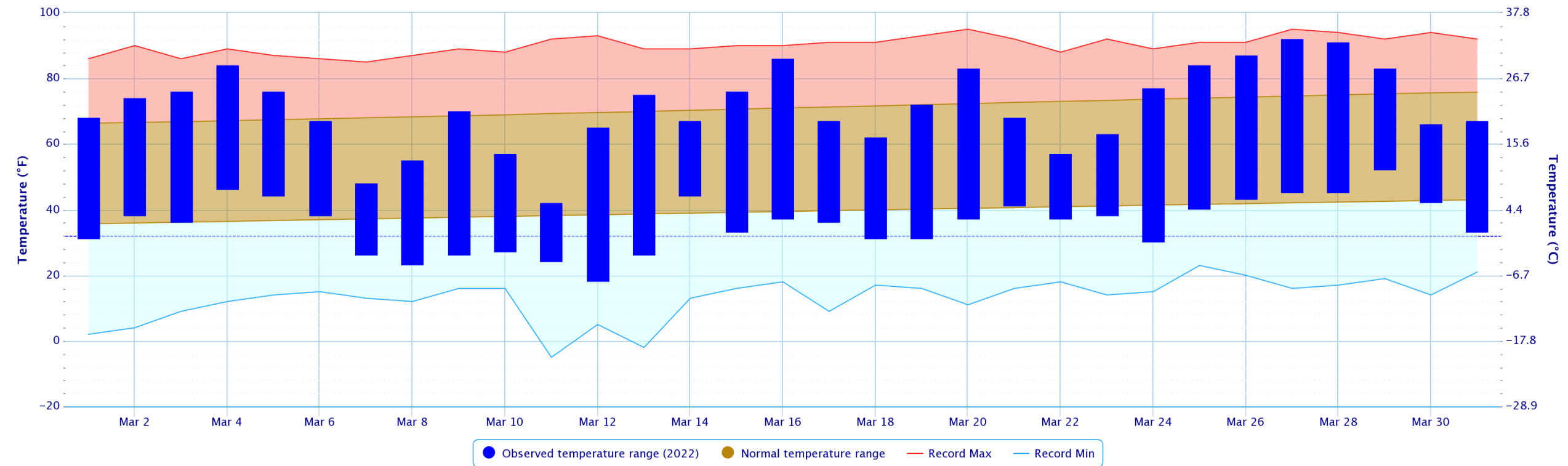
There was 4.6" of snow, compared to the normal of 3.4". This was a tie for the 34th snowiest March on record.



Average Temperature: 53.3°

Daily Temperature Data – Roswell Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – Max temperature: 1893–01-03 to 2022–03-31; Min temperature: 1893–01-21 to 2022–03-31. Normals period: 1991–2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



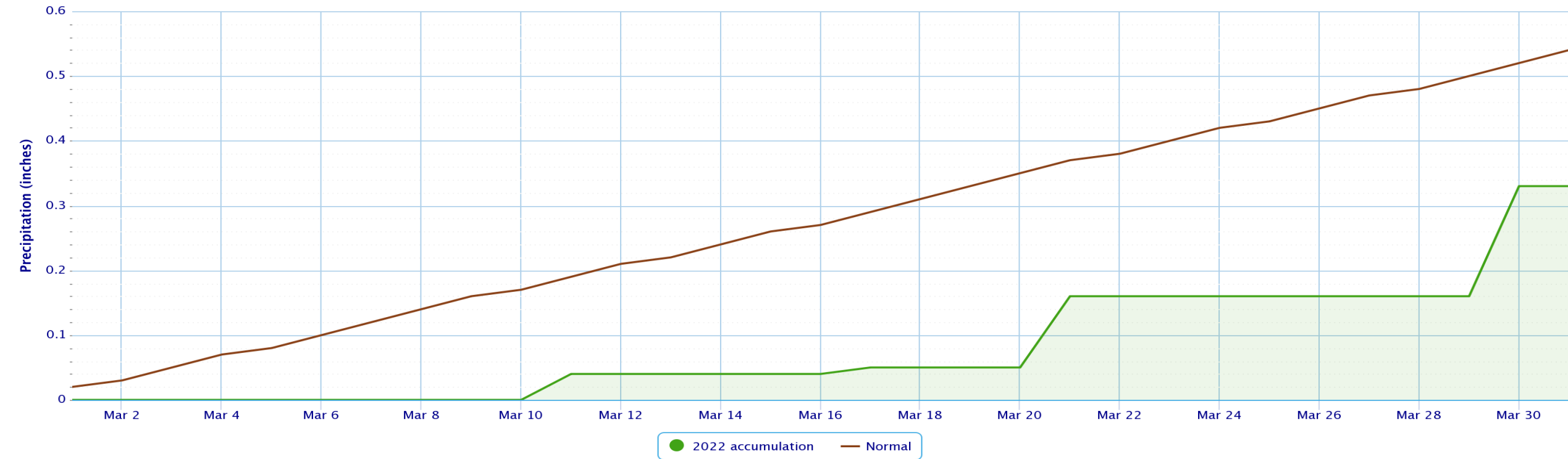
The March 2022 average temperature for Roswell was 53.3, which was 1.9° below the normal of 55.2°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 71.1°. This was 0.1° above the average maximum temperature of 71.0°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 35.4°. This was 4.0° below the normal average minimum temperature of 39.4°. This ranked as the 82nd coldest March on record.



Precipitation: 0.33"

Accumulated Precipitation – Roswell Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



Powered by ACIS

The March 2022 precipitation for Roswell was 0.33", which was 0.21" below the normal of 0.54". This tied for the 80th driest March on record.








There was 0.2" of snow, compared to the normal of 0.7". This was tied for the 61st least snowiest March on record.



Event Type	Begin Date	County Name	Magnitude	Type	Event Narrative
High Wind	3/4/2022	Middle Rio Grande Valley/ABQ Metro	56 kt	Gust	The Albuquerque Sunport measured a peak wind gust of 64 mph with areas of blowing dust.
High Wind	3/4/2022	Santa Fe Metro	50 kt	Gust	The Santa Fe airport measured a peak wind gust to 58 mph with areas of blowing dust.
High Wind	3/4/2022	West Central Plateau	55 kt	Gust	The Gallup airport measured a peak wind speed of 63 mph.
High Wind	3/6/2022	Central Highlands	53 kt	Gust	Clines Corners measured a peak wind gust of 61 mph.
Heavy Snow	3/10/2022	West Central Plateau		6"	Around Gallup. Difficult travel reported along I-40.
Heavy Snow	3/10-3/11/2022	Tusas Mountains and Chama		10-12"	Severe travel conditions along U.S. 64 from Tierra Amarilla and Hopewell Lake.
Heavy Snow	3/10-3/11/2022	Northern Sangre de Cristo Mountains		22"	Taos Ski Valley. Difficult travel along U.S. 64 and NM 150.
Heavy Snow	3/10-3/11/2022	Southern Sangre de Cristo Mountains		12"	Tres Ritos area.
Heavy Snow	3/10-3/11/2022	East Slopes Sangre de Cristo Mountains		9-14"	Angel Fire to Eagle Nest. Difficult travel along U.S. 64 from Taos to Eagle Nest.
Heavy Snow	3/10-3/11/2022	Upper Rio Grande Valley		6-8"	Arroyo Seco area. Difficult travel on U.S. 64 and NM 522.
Heavy Snow	3/10-3/11/2022	Sandia/Manzano Mountains and Edgewood		5-8"	Edgewood to Golden and Sedillo.
Heavy Snow	3/10-3/11/2022	Far Northeast Highlands		6"	Cimarron area.
Avalanche	3/10-3/11/2022	Northern Sangre de Cristo Mountains			Large avalanche at Taos Ski Valley.
Winter Weather	3/10-3/11/2022	West Central Mountains		3-5"	Difficult travel along I-40 with accidents.
Winter Storm	3/17/2022	Union County		2-4"	Near blizzard conditions with 50 mph winds and treacherous travel across Union County.
Winter Storm	3/17/2022	Johnson/Bartlett Mesa and Raton pass		2-4"	Near blizzard conditions with 50 mph winds and treacherous travel across Raton Mesa.
High Wind	3/21/2022	Quay County	50 kt	Gust	Tucumcari airport measured a peak wind gust of 58 mph.
High Wind	3/22/2022	Far Northeast Highlands	57 kt	Gust	Raton airport measured a peak wind gust of 66 mph.
High Wind	3/22/2022	Far Northeast Highlands	41 kt	Sustained	Raton airport measured a peak sustained wind speed of 47 mph.
High Wind	3/22/2022	Union County	51 kt	Gust	Clayton airport measured a peak wind gust of 59 mph.
High Wind	3/22/2022	Curry County	54 kt	Gust	Clovis measured a peak wind gust of 62 mph.
High Wind	3/23/2022	Far Northeast Highlands	51 kt	Gust	Raton airport measured a peak wind speed of 59 mph.
High Wind	3/23/2022	Union County	50 kt	Gust	Downed power pole in Mount Dora.
Heavy Snow	3/22-3/23/2022	Glorieta Mesa and Pass	6-7"		Glorieta area. Severe travel reported along I-25.
Heavy Snow	3/22-3/23/2022	Middle Rio Grande Valley/ABQ Metro	4-7"		Difficult travel across the region with heavy snow and strong winds.
Winter Storm	3/21-3/22/2022	Johnson/Bartlett Mesa and Raton pass			Blizzard-like conditions forced the closure of U.S. 64 from Raton to Clayton.
Winter Storm	3/21-3/22/2022	Union County	2-5"		Blizzard-like conditions across Union County with road closures and severe travel.
High Wind	3/29/2022	Chaves County Plains	56 kt	Gust	Roswell airport measured a peak wind gust of 64 mph.
High Wind	3/29/2022	South Central Mountains	54 kt	Gust	Sierra Blanca airport measured a peak wind gust of 62 mph.
High Wind	3/29/2022	Quay County	51 kt	Gust	Tucumcari measured a peak wind gust of 59 mph.
High Wind	3/29/2022	Curry County	50 kt	Gust	Cannon Air Force Base near Clovis measured a peak wind gust of 58 mph.
High Wind	3/29/2022	Roosevelt County	50 kt	Gust	Dora measured a peak wind gust of 58 mph.
High Wind	3/29/2022	Lower Rio Grande Valley	55 kt	Gust	Bosque del Apache area measured a brief wind gust of 63 mph.
High Wind	3/29/2022	South Central Highlands	52 kt	Gust	North Oscura Peak measured a brief wind gust of 60 mph.
High Wind	3/29/2022	Union County	50 kt	Gust	Clayton airport measured a brief wind gust of 58 mph.

*Storm reports are considered preliminary until a final review is certified in the NWS Storm Data publication. Certified data is available three to four months post-event at: <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>



-  NCEI Climatological Rankings: <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/national/rankings>
-  PRISM Climate Data: <http://www.prism.oregonstate.edu/>
-  NWS Local Climate Pages: <https://w2.weather.gov/climate/index.php?wfo=abq>
-  NCEI Storm Data: <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>
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